

Message Text

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46

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 DPW-01 IO-12 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01

PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /120 W
----- 035671

R 111101 Z MAY 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1551

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 8361

E. O. 11652 GDS

TAGS PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: DAILY SITREP , MAY 11

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION SAIGON DTD 11 MAY FROM NHA TRANG

QUOTE C O N F I D E N T I A L NHA TRANG 0489

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT PINS MILI VS

SUBJECT: DAILY SIT REP, MAY 11

1. MILITARY SITUATION: ARVN SPOKESMAN REPORTED 11 INCIDENTS IN MR 2 ON MAY 10, INCLUDING FOUR MININGS, TWO GROUND ATTACKS, TWO HARASSMENTS BY FIRE, ONE FIREFIGHT, ONE DISCOVERY OF VC BODIES KILLHC BY AIR ATTACK, MJD ONE VC ABDUCTION OF CIVILIANS. FOUR INCIDENTS OCCURRED IN NORTHERN BINH DINH AND THE REMAINDER WERE SCATTERED THROUGH KONTUM, PLEIKU, PHU YEN AND BINH THUAN. CASUALTY AGGREGATES: VC: 26 KIA, ONE CAPTURED; RVNAF: TWO KIA, FOUR WIA.

2. MOST OF RELATIVELY HIGH VC LOSSES WERE ATTRIBUTED TO TWO ACTIONS: A RECENT XNAF TACTICAL AIR STRIKE IN NORTHERN PHU MY
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DISTRICT, IN BINH DINH PROVINCE WHICH KILLED 1 W VC; AND A REGIONAL FORCE COUNTER- ATTACK FOLLOWING A VC GROUND ASSAULT ON AN OUTPOST IN BINH THUAN WHICH KILLED EIGHT VC (RF LOSSES NIL IN THIS ACTION).

3. PLEIKU SECTOR REPORTED VC ENTERED A REMOTE HAMLET OF LE TRUNG DISTRICT ON MAY 10 AND ABDUCTED 27 MONTAGNARD CIVILIANS.

4. ARTILLERY POLICY: CHIEF OF MR 2 ARTILLERY SUPPORT STAFF, COL. PHUNG, TOLD PLEIKU POLOFF ON MAY 7 ABOUT POST- CEASEFIRE CHANGES IN GVN POLICY OF ARTILLERY SUPPORT. PHUNG EXPLAINED THAT, THOUGH BASIC AMMUNITION LOAD IS UNCHANGED, NUMBER OF ROUNDS EXPENDABLE ON DAILY BASIS HAS BEEN REDUCED. MR 2 IS ALLOCATED 1,700 ROUNDS PER DAY TO BE USED IN DEFENSIVE FIRE ONLY. IF THIS NUMBER OF ROUNDS IS DIVIDED EVENLY AMONG ALL REGIONAL ARTILLERY PIECES (WHICH IS GENERALLY THE CASE) EACH TUBE COULD EXPEND FOUR OR FIVE ROUNDS DAILY. ROUNDS NOT FIRED IN ONE DAY ARE CARRIED OVER TO THE NEXT, SO DAILY QUOTA IS CUMULATIVE AND INCREASES AS A FUNCTION OF THE DAYS WHEN LIMIT IS NOT RPT NOT FIRED. COL. PHUNG SAID MR 2 AMMUNITION QUOTA IS ADEQUATE FOR THIS QUIET PERIOD, BUT WOULD HAVE TO BE INCREASED IF ENEMY LAUNCHED ANOTHER OFFENSIVE.

5. PRISONER RELEASE: THE CIVILIAN PRISONER RELEASE IN KHANH HOA PROVINCE IS NOW SET TO TAKE PLACE MAY 12 AT 10 A. M. IN DIEN THO VILLAGE, DIEN KHANH DISTRICT. THE TEN CAPTIVES TO BE HANDED OVER TO GVN AUTHORITIES BY THE PRG CONSIST OF NINE MEN AND ONE WOMAN RANGING IN AGE FROM 20 TO 56. ALL WERE CAPTURED IN 1971 OR 1972. PROVINCE OFFICIALS ARE NOW IN THE PROCESS OF ARRANGING A WELCOMING CEREMONY TO FOLLOW THE RELEASE. ENGL

UNQUOTE
WHITE HOUSE

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